when the rain pours down once more

Maia amenokatsuki

HEY, SHIRO-KUN!

OFFI-CER!

WANNA GO TO RYUSUI-CHO FOR A SWIM?

ARA-GAMI-DONO!

RYU-SUI-CHO?

THIS TIME OF YEAR IS PER-FECT FOR SWIM-MING!

T/N: cho = town; the kanji for "Ryusui" literally mean "flowing water"

Ryusui-cho

WHAT AN...

UN-USUAL SCENE-RY...

THERE'S A LOT OF WATER AT RYUSUI-CHO.

IT RAINS HERE ALMOST ALL YEAR LONG...

WELCOME, GENTLE-MEN! HERE, YOUR FLOWER LAN-TERNS.

!

BUT ONCE THE DRY SEASON COMES, THE TOWN TURNS INTO A WATER PARK LIKE THIS.

I SEE...

AFTER TAKING OFF YOUR CLOTHES, YOU CAN KEEP THEM IN IT AND CARRY IT. AT NIGHT, YOU LIGHT A CANDLE INSIDE AND USE IT AS A LANTERN.

AL-RIGHT ...

AND THIS IS...?

'ES!

GUYS, THIS IS THE DRESSING ROOM.

WOOSH

blub

SPLASH

PWAH!

They jumped off from here

THIS IS SO MUCH FUN!

WAA AA!!

EVEN MER-MAIDS ARE HERE SITTING ON THAT ROCK!

!

THEY MUST BE WATER THEATER ACT-RESS-ES ON THEIR TOUR.

HOW DULL...

WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE THIS IS NOT A MIXED POOL.

splash

splash

DETECTED

HOW COME WE ONLY HAVE MEN IN THIS POOL...

This is Shiro

Boo!

SWOSH
SWISH
GASP
SHOCK
SWOSH
IT'S SO BORING HERE.
SWISH
SWOSH
SWISH
STARTLED
GAH!
EH!?
ALL OF THEM GLANCE AT SHIRO AT LEAST TWICE.
YELP!!
IT TAKES MORE THAN A SINGLE GLANCE TO SEE THAT HE'S A MAN AND NOT A WOMAN.
SHIRO-KUN, WEAR SOME-THING TO COVER YOUR TOP.
HUH... WHY MUST I?
YOU'RE ANDRO-GYNOUS-- A KIND OF MAN THAT IS INJURI-OUS TO PUBLIC MORALS.
YOU LOOK LIKE A WOMAN AT A GLANCE.

THAT'S NOT HOW A MAN ACTS, YOU PERV!!!

STILL, YOU WERE UNNECES-SARILY MANLY WHEN YOU GALLANTLY STRIPPED!

I HATE IT!!

OOOOHH

WHOA

WEARING CLOTHES INSIDE A SWIM-MING POOL IS SO NOT MANLY!!

IF THEY THINK I'M A CHICK, I MIGHT AS WELL BE COMPLE-TELY NAKED!!

R-18

'E... J'ES...

grip grip

GRRR

REMEM-BER, WE'RE POLICE OFFI-CERS. KNOW YOUR PLACE.

YOU... WE'RE GOING TO SERIOUSLY ARREST YOU!

'ES.

LET'S HAVE A WALK AROUND HERE. ENJOYING THE SCENERY CAN BE FUN, TOO.

yank

ENOUGH! I CAN'T LET YOU SWIM THOUGHT-LESSLY LIKE THIS! WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!!

BUUUUT...!!

clack

YEAH, WOVEN FABRICS ARE THE SPECIALTY OF THIS TOWN.

clack

clack

I NOTICED THAT A LOT OF GIRLS HERE ARE WEAVERS.

OH.

LOOKS LIKE THIS SHOP IS CLOSED.

YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S NOW A PLACE TO DUMP STUFF.

IS THIS A BROKEN WEAVING LOOM?

HEY, YOU!!

DON'T TOUCH MY THINGS!

clatter

I- I'M SORRY!

THAT WAS RUDE OF US. WE DIDN'T KNOW SOMEONE WAS LIVING IN THAT SHOP...

W- WE'RE SORRY!

EXCUSE US!

'ES...

fwoosh fwoosh

DON'T EVEN COME NEAR MY HOUSE!! SHOO! SHOO!!

!

YOU GUYS.

DON'T MIND HER.

THIS TOWN IS A TOURIST ATTRACT-ION, BUT SHE'S TROUBLING EVERYONE

Get lost! Shitty brats!

E.wwww! It's the Trash Granny

NOW SHE'S TURN-ING HER HOUSE NTO A TRASH PILE.

AFTER HER ILLNESS WORSENED, THAT GRANDMA IS ALWAYS IN A BAD TEMPER.

LOOK.NG AT THAT RUNDOWN SHACK ANYONE WOULD TH.NK THAT T WOULD BE UNIN-HABITED.

...

NOW SHE'S JUST A DISTANT MEMORY OF WHAT SHE ONCE WAS

IN THE PAST THOUGH, SHE WAS KNOWN AS

"KIKUE THE BUTTER-FLY", A BEAUTI-FUL LITTLE DANCER.

EX-CUSE ME

WE'RE TERRI-BLY SORRY FOR WHAT WE DID EARLI-ER.

UM... K KUE-SAN, DO YOU L KE ANTI-QUES?

WHY DO YOU ASK ...?

BECAUSE YOU HAVE LOTS OF OLD, EXPRESSI-VELY DESIGNED ITEMS.

MY ELDER BROTHER USED TO CREATE VARIOUS STUFF USING MATERIALS LIKE THESE.

AHAHA! WHAT I SHOULD I MAKE NEXT, I WONDER~?

IT'S DONE!

MY PATCH CLIPS!

SHOULD I MAKE A CHANDE-LIER FROM GLASSES AND CLIPS?

...NII-YA..

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING ON MY LAP TOO, HAVEN'T YOU?

PLEASE STOP USING MY BACK

AS YOUR WORK-BENCH. .

WELL

HE'S A CHILDISH PERSON BY NATU-RE.

SIGH..

I USED TO ENTERTAIN TOURISTS WHO WALKED DOWN THIS ROAD

I MAY LOOK LIKE THIS NOW, BUT WHEN I WAS YOUNG

.. I KEEP THESE OLD THINGS BECAUSE THEY REVIVE MY MEMORIES OF THE PAST.

I DON'T HAVE THE SAME HOBBY AS YOUR BROTHER-- I DON'T COLLECT JUNKS

SO I TOOK THE INITIATIVE TO DANCE WHEN THE RAINY SEASON CAME.

WHEN IT'S DAMP AND HUMID DURING THE RAINY SEASON, IT'S EASY FOR PEOPLE TO BE DISPIRITED.

MY FINGERS WERE LIKE A BUTTERFLY'S FLAPPING WINGS-- THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID

MY MUSIC WAS THE MUSIC OF THE RAIN-BOWS, SPREAD-ING UN-DER THE RAIN.

reach

. YOUR FINGERS ARE STILL BEAUTIFUL.

I'M JUST AN OLD GRANNY...

.. YOU'RE A CURIOUS BOY, HUH. YOU HAVE SOME STRANGE TASTE, TOO.

smirk

...'ES.

WELL, I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING GOOD, CURIOUS BOY

COME HERE AGAIN NEXT MONTH.

whoosh

One month later

OH. YOU GUYS FROM LAST TIME!

AH. LONG TIME NO SEE.

YEAH. BECAUSE IT'S NOW THE RAINY SEASON

BUT ALAS, IT'S RAINING HEAVILY.

I CAME HERE JUST AS SHE TOLD ME.

WE CAME HERE TO VISIT K KUE-SAN.

HUH?

K KUE-SAN PASSED AWAY RECENTLY

WHAT !!

YEAH, HER ILLNESS DIDN'T GET ANY BETTER.

STILL, YOU GUYS SHOULD GO TO HER HOUSE.

I WAS A BIT SURPR.-SED WHEN I SAW IT.

.. 'ES.

IT'S THAT ONE, RIGHT?

K.KUE-SAN'S HOUSE ...

YEAH... I DON'T SEE MUCH CHANGES THOUGH...

LET'S GO, SH RO-KUN.

PAT

OH..

shing

clang

plop

clink

clink

THIS IS...

shing

jingle

Ka-sha

PAT

Plunk

jingle

ALONG THE THREADS OF THE POSITIONED WEAVING LOOM.

A MECHA-NISM THAT ALLOWS RAIN-WATER TO FALL AT DIFFERENT INTERVALS ...

shing

Plunk

drip

drip

A MUSICAL THAT PLAYS ONLY WHEN IT RAINS.

THE HOUSE ITSELF IS...

SO I DARED MYSELF AND DANCED WHEN THE RAINY SEASON CAME.

IT'S EASY FOR PEOPLE TO BE DIS-PIRITED DURING THE RAINY SEASON.

I SEE... SHE MUST'VE REALIZED THAT SHE WOULDN'T LIVE MUCH LONGER...

AND CREATED THIS...

...

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SONG.

'ES...

'ES.

THIS HOUSE WILL SURELY BE A NEW TOURIST SPOT...

chatter

HOW INTEREST-ING.

OH. WHAT'S THAT? MUSIC IS PLAYING FROM IT.

LIGHTEN UP THIS TOWN'S RAINY SEASON...

KIKUE-SAN WILL CONTINUE TO

WITH THE "RAINBOW MUSIC" THAT SHE PER-FORMS.

END

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Oh, crap. That's Kojiro's "I want what I don't have" face...

Hm?

BUT WE HAVE *SO MANY* CHAPTERS TO SCAN-LATE!

WE *LACK* TRANS-LATORS YOU SAID ...?

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AHAHA! WELL SAID, KOJIRO-KUN~! LET'S HOPE THEY DON'T IGNORE YOU!

.....

Man, you're an interesting fella~

This guy's spirit is over the top!! He's virtually losing his character!!

I *WANT* WHAT I DON'T HAVE!!

I *WANT* JAPANESE-ENGLISH TRANS-LATORS AND I WILL HAVE THEM SO YOU!! *APPLY NOW!!*

GRAWR